

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 10997 160615Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 STR-07 HUD-01 ICA-11
LAB-04 INT-05 EUR-12 AGRE-00 /059 W
-----092682 160619Z /13
P 160611Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8877

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DEPT ALSO PASS STR AND LABOR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, MTN, JA
SUBJECT: SUS FOLLOW-UP, FOREST PRODUCTS

REF: (A) STATE 144587, (B) TOKYO 10182,
(C) TOKYO 10893

SUMMARY: MAF HAS ASKED US TO MAKE CLEAR THAT FOREST PRODUCTS MISSION IS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND IS NOT A BUYING MISSION. THEY ACCEPT POINTS MADE REFTEL B, BUT WOULD ALSO LIKE BROAD OVERVIEW OF U.S. FOREST AND WOOD PRODUCTS SITUATION BEFORE TAKING UP POINT BY POINT DISCUSSIONS. THEY ALSO HOPE TO DISCUSS U.S. POLICY ON LOG EXPORTS AND PRICING. END SUMMARY.

1. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (MAF) HAS PROVIDED EMBOFF WITH THEIR REACTION TO POINTS OF DISCUSSION RAISED IN PARAGRAPH 3, REFTEL A. JAPANESE SEE FOREST PRODUCTS MISSION AS FORUM TO EXCHANGE BROAD VIEWS ON STATUS OF FOREST AND LUMBER INDUSTRY, SUPPLY AND DEMAND PROBLEMS, AND TRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH OBJECTIVE OF EXPANDING AND UPGRADING THIS TRADE. THEY ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED THAT U.S. SIDE SEES THIS
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AS BUYING MISSION, WHICH IN THEIR MINDS IT IS NOT.
COMMENT: DESPITE CONTENTS OF REFTEL B, JAPANESE CONSULATES IN SEATTLE AND PORTLAND ARE REPORTING THAT WASHINGTON AND OREGON REGARD DELEGATION AS BUYING MISSION. USEFUL CONTACTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE MADE, BUT WEST COAST SPONSORS NEED TO BE AWARE OF MISSION'S VIEWS.

2. MAF HAS NO OBJECTION TO POINTS, OR ORDER OF PRESENTATION LISTED REFTEL A. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT PRIOR TO POINT BY POINT DISCUSSION, THEY BE PROVIDED WITH A BROAD OVERVIEW OF U.S. FOREST AND WOOD PRODUCT SITUATION, ENCOMPASSING STATUS OF LABOR, PRODUCTION, SUPPLY, AND DEMAND STATISTICS, ON A STATE BY STATE BASIS, INCLUDING THE STATUS AND CONDITIONS OF FOREST RESERVES.

3. MAF WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS U.S. RESTRICTIONS ON LOGS EXPORTED FROM FEDERALLY HELD LANDS AND THE REASONS FOR PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN LOGS USED DOMESTICALLY IN THE U.S. AND THOSE EXPORTED.

MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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